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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
**Attention: Examiner Brian P. Werner**  
**Art Unit: 2621**

October 14, 2003

Re: **DEFECT INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS**  
U.S. Application No.: 09/294,137  
Attorney Docket No.: 500.37149X00

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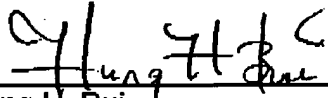
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Sir:

Applicants hereby submit the attached "Amendment" (26 pgs), Petition for Extension of Time (1 pg) and Credit Card Payment Form (1 pg) in the above-identified application.

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION:**

I hereby certify that the attached "Amendment" (26 pgs), Petition for Extension of Time (1 pg) and Credit Card Payment Form (1 pg) prepared in response to the non-final Office Action (Paper No. 20) dated on May 12, 2003, is being formally filed in the USPTO via Group 2621; Examiner Brian P. Werner; Facsimile No. 703-872-9314 on **October 14, 2003**.

  
Hung H. Bui

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Entered  
10-20-03  
11-14-03

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Shunji MAEDA et al.

**Serial No.:** 09/294,137

**Filed:** April 20, 1999

**For:** DEFECT INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS

**Group:** 2621

**Examiner:** Brian P. Werner

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**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 14, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action (Paper No. 20) dated on May 12, 2003,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 13 of this paper.